CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1-6 and add new claims as set forth below.

1-6. Canceled.

7. (New) A system comprising at least two power supply unit controllers for a rack enclosure in which a plurality of devices communicate via a backplane, each said controller comprising:

means for reading at least one signal indicative of an output supply level being provided to said backplane by a power supply unit associated with said power supply unit controller;

memory for storing at least one value associated with a respective one of the at least one signal, at least one scaling value associated with a respective one of the at least one signal and dependent on said power supply unit, and a power supply unit serial number; and

communicating means, responsive to a request from one of said devices, for a returning a state of said associated power supply unit to said requesting device, said state including a combination of:

a summary of the current status of the power supply unit,

said at least one value,

said at least one scaling value, and

said power supply unit serial number,

according to said device request.

8. (New) The system of claim 7 in which each of controllers requires power to operate, each controller drawing said power from the backplane and thus not dependent upon its said associated power supply unit for said power.

9. (New) The system of claim 7 wherein each said controller is arranged to store scaling values dependent on the supply levels supplied by the power supply unit associated with the controller.

10. (New) The system of claim 7 wherein said device is a higher level processor arranged to monitor environmental conditions in an entire rack enclosure and each controller is responsive to a request from said processor to return said scaling values.

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11. (Original) The system of claim 7 wherein each said controller is arranged to store a respective power supply unit serial number, the respective power supply unit serial number different from that of the serial number of any other power supply of the system.

12. (Original) The system of claim 7 wherein each said controller is responsive to a device request to condition the amount of information returned by the power supply unit controller in response to the request.

13. (New) A system comprising at least two power supply unit controllers for a rack enclosure in which a plurality of devices communicate via a backplane, each said controller comprising:

means for reading at least one signal indicative of an output supply level being provided to said backplane by a power supply unit associated with said power supply unit controller;

memory for storing at least one value associated with a respective one of the at least one signal, at least one scaling value associated with a respective one of the at least one signal and dependent on said power supply unit, and a power supply unit serial number; and

communicating means, responsive to a request from one of said devices, for a returning a state of said associated power supply unit to said requesting device, said state including a combination of:

a summary of the current status of the power supply unit,

said at least stored one value,

said at least one stored scaling value, and

said stored power supply unit serial number,

according to said device request;

each controller requiring power to operate, each controller drawing said power from the

backplane and thus not dependent upon said associated power supply unit for said power.

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